Some of the works presented in this guide were owned by The National Library of Iceland, and others by the The University Library, from before the two libraries were amalgamated. Many works were given as gifts to the new library at the celebration of the opening in the new building on December 1st 1994.
2nd floor - entrance
Sculpture by Helgi Gislason: Title: Silfra
Metal sculpture, named after a rift in Thingvellir. Gift from the University of Iceland, 1994.

2nd floor - reference collection
Wall tapestry by the Norwegian artist Synnøve Anker Aurald: Title: Words and Space
A gift from the Norwegian nation in the year 1974. The artist's intention was to show the sea, its waves and its magic and to point out the poetic connections between Iceland and Norway. The value of poetry is emphasized in the quotations woven into the tapestry:
Heilög víðn höía = The sacred waters boil [Grimnismál]
Og fegurðin mun ríkja ein = And beauty shall reign alone [Heimsóls]
Vi går og gýður bort ein gud som gneistar gjennom alv [Tor Jonson]
Maður er manns gaman = Man delights in man [Hávamál]

Stained-glass work by Leifur Breiðfjörð: Title: The Human Spirit: Past–Present–Future

„This work depicts three Heads. The one on the left represents the Past, with text from old Icelandic manuscripts, The center one shows the Present, with text under a computer sign. The one on the right shows the Future, an unwritten sheet.”
[www.breidjord.com]

Stained-glass work by Gunnlaugur S. E. Briem:
Hanging panel, the artist's representation of the text in an illuminated medieval manuscript. The text is taken from Icelandic Folktales and Legends, compiled by Jón Árnason. The characters, designed by the artist himself, are made of gold (1994).

Sculpture by Óðalheiður Eysteinsdóttir: Børstein Gylfason, a former professor of philosophy at The University of Iceland. Gift from his friends.

Sculpture by Magnús Ágústsson.

Painting by Kristján Davíðsson:
Abstract, untitled. The painting was made for the occasion of the opening of the National and University Library on Dec. 1, 1994.

Ceramic bowl by Guðný Magnúsdóttir:

Painting by Eiríkur Smith:
Untitled, a scene from Prestssaga Guðmundar góða [Sturlunga saga].

Eylenda Musings, work by the American artist, Jean Larsson.
This work is based on photos taken in the Western fjords in Iceland.

Work by Valgerður Hauksdóttir:

Work by the Brazilian Maria Lucia Cattani: 4 corners of the world.

Tapestry woven in silk.
Gift from the Archives of Iran, 2015.

2nd floor - cafeteria
Stained-glass work by Sigriður Ægissirdóttir (Systa): Title: Blue
Three part standing stained glass pane (1994).

2nd floor - lecture room
Water colour paintings by Snorri Sveinn Friðriksson:
Illustrations in the book Jón í Brauðhúsum by Hallðór Laxness.

1st floor - entrance
Kayak:
Gift to the Icelandic nation from the Greenlandic nation on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Icelandic republic in the year 1994.

1st floor - Special collections
Painting by Halldór Pétursson:
Portrait of Halldór Hermannsson, former Professor of Old Norse Studies at Cornell University (1943).

Painting by Sigurður Sigurðsson:
Dr. Jón Steffensen, a physician and passionate book collector who donated his books to the National and University Library.

Painting by Rikardur Jónsson:
Bust of Benedikt S. Bórarísson, former merchant and book collector whose books are conserved in the library. [Plaster/bronze, 1936.]

Painting by Nína Tryggvadóttir:
Nína Tryggvadóttir, a 19th century leader of the Icelandic independence movement (1871).

Painting by Einar Jónsson:
National Librarian, Guðmundur Finnbogason (1943).

1st floor - reading room
Painting by Gunnlaugur Scheving:
Autumn Evening (1958).

Painting by Nína Tryggvadóttir:
Steinn Steinarr, Icelandic poet (1939).

Sketch by Emile Lasalle:
Steingrimur Jónsson, biskup (1835).

Sculpture by Joseph Echteler:
Konrad v. Maurer, collected and published Icelandic folk tales (1888).

Sculpture by Finnur Jónsson:
Jóhannes úr Kötlum, a well known Icelandic poet.

Sketch by Brynjulf Larsen Bergslien:
Jón Sigurðsson, a 19th century leader of the Icelandic independence movement (1871).

Sculpture by Einar Jónsson:
National Librarian, Guðmundur Finnbogason (1943).

1st floor - Manuscript Department
Painting by Hringur Jónhannsson:
Gift to the Manuscript Department in 1997 in memory of Grimur M. Helgason, former head of the Manuscript Department in The National Library, from his family.